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WYOMING LABOR FORCE TRENDS

Vol. 26 No. 9 A Monthly Newsletter Published in Cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics September, 1989

Trend Setters

Wyoming	Jun '89	Jul '89
Labor Force	230,427	228,383
Employment	217,765	214,346
Unemployment	12,662	14,037
Rate (Raw)	5.5	6.1
Rate (S.A.)	6.1	7.0
Mining Hourly Wage	$14.33	$14.35
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	42.9	43.0
USA		
Rate (S.A.)	5.3	5.2
Mining Hourly Wage	$12.97	$13.11
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	42.8	43.2
Consumer Price Index		
All Urban (1982-1984 = 100)		
U.S. City Avg.	124.1	124.4
Year Change (U.S.)	+5.2	+5.0

S.A. Seasonally Adjusted.

In This Issue:

1989 Wyoming Annual Planning Report Available.

Wyoming Pay Increase Second lowest in U.S.

Wyoming Paid $8.7 Million in Unemployment Benefits Out-of-State.

Casper Included in Top 100.

Wyoming's Youth Enter Labor Force.

U. S. Employment Situation Changes Little in June

The national employment and unemployment picture, as measured by the household survey, in July remained about unchanged from June. Civilian unemployment edged down slightly to 5.2 percent from 5.3 percent in June and compared to 5.4 percent a year ago.

Nonagricultural payroll employment, as measured by the establishment survey, gained by 184,000 workers in July, seasonally adjusted. Results from both Federal surveys suggest the pace of employment growth has moderated in recent months.

The seasonally adjusted number of employed and unemployed in July in the U.S. stood at 117.5 and 6.6 million.

Wyoming Unemployment Up at 7.0 Percent

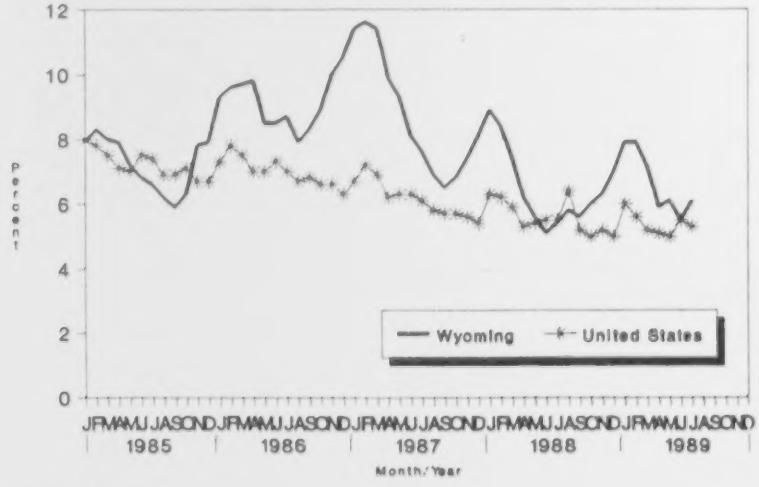
Seasonally adjusted unemployment was almost two full percentage points above the U.S. rate, at 7.0 percent, in July. This is up from both the 6.1 percent rate of last month and 6.2 percent rate of last year. Unadjusted, the July rate of 6.1 percent was up from the 5.5 and 5.4 percent of last month and last year. The number of jobseekers in July, at 14,000, was up from 12,700 in June and 13,000 a year ago. In July, only about a quarter of the unemployed were collecting unemployment insurance benefits in Wyoming.

In June, the latest data available for all states, Wyoming ranked eleventh highest in unadjusted unemployment at 5.5 percent. Mississippi and Hawaii were at the top and bottom of the scale at 9.8 and 3.0 percent. Of the states contiguous to Wyoming, Montana and Colorado had higher unemployment at 6.0 and 6.7 percent. On the other side of the coin, Nebraska, Utah, South Dakota, and Idaho had lower unemployment in the 3.6 to 4.9 percent range.

Wyoming Labor Force Down

In July, the statewide labor force, at 228,400, continued down from the 240,100 recorded a year ago. Total employment, workers, stood at 214,300 and was down almost six percent from the year ago count. On a more optimistic note, Wyoming service-producing industries continued to gain employment over-the-year. State and local government indicated an annual gain of 1,700 workers with summer street and highway construction projects accounting for the bulk of the gain.

Unemployment Rate, Wyoming and U.S.
Civilian Unadjusted
1985 - 1989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10
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Percent
Wyoming
United States
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1985
1986
1987
1988
1989
Month/Year

County Trends

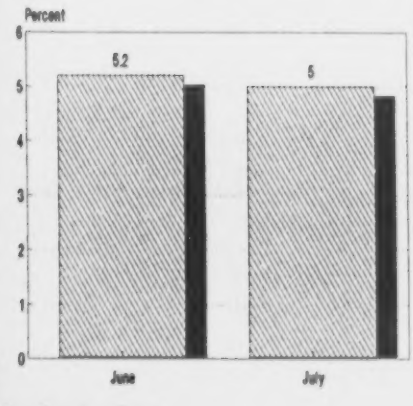
The Jackson Hole area, Teton County, continued its status as Wyoming's only pocket of prosperity in July. July unemployment was a paltry 1.7 percent and annual labor force growth was noted. Niobrara and Albany counties followed with unemployment rates of 2.6 and 4.1 percent. Sweetwater and Lincoln counties had the highest unemployment at 9.0 and 8.8 percent. The Casper and Cheyenne areas, Natrona and Laramie counties, had the highest number of jobseekers at 2,100 and 1,900 with unemployment of 7.1 and 5.6 percent.

1989 Wyoming Annual Planning Report

A wealth of economic information covering Wyoming and its counties is available in the *1989 Wyoming Annual Planning Report.* The report is a statistical publication which analyzes labor market developments in the state and represents an effort to summarize the considerable amount of data produced by the Research and Analysis Section of the Wyoming Employment Security Commission.

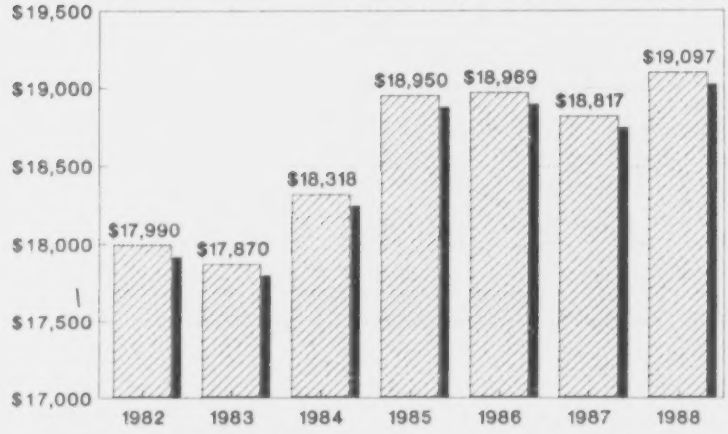
The *1989 Wyoming Annual Planning Report* is available from the preparer, Michael Paris, call (307) 235-3642, or write to the address on the back page of Trends.

Consumer Price Index
Annual Percent Change
All Urban



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

1988 Wyoming Annual Average Pay
(Covered by Unemployment Insurance)



Scale does not begin at zero.

Source: Research & Analysis in Cooperation with BLS.

Wyoming Pay Increase Second Lowest in U.S.

Wyoming average annual pay increased just 1.5 percent in 1988, the second lowest increase in the United States. Alaska posted the smallest increase with a 0.1 percent change in annual pay.

The average annual pay of Wyoming workers covered by State and Federal Unemployment Insurance (UI) programs was $19,097 in 1988, a 1.5 percent increase over the 1987 pay of $18,817. The national average annual pay for 1988 was $21,871, a 4.9 percent increase over 1987.

Among the states, the District of Columbia led the nation, as in 1987, with average annual pay of $30,254. Alaska was second with average annual pay of $28,033, followed by New York ($26,347), Connecticut ($26,244), and New Jersey ($25,748). South Dakota had the lowest average annual pay ($15,424), followed by North Dakota ($16,508) and Mississippi ($16,522).

As in previous years, the highest percentage increases in average annual pay for 1988 generally were in states along the East Coast from Maine to Virginia. New Jersey led the nation with an increase of 8.0 percent, followed by Connecticut (7.9 percent) and Massachusetts (7.4 percent).

Average annual pay for the nation varied widely by industry. The mining industry had the highest average annual pay ($34,341). The lowest average annual pay ($11,965) was in the retail trade industry which employs a large percentage of part-time workers.

These data are the product of a federal-state cooperative program in which state employment security agencies prepare summaries of employment and total pay of workers covered by unemployment insurance legislation.

Wyoming Paid $8.7 Million in Unemployment Benefits Out-of-State

Compared to all States, Wyoming paid the fourth highest proportion of unemployment benefits to out-of-state claimants. The national average for interstate payments in 1987 was nearly six percent. Wyoming sent 17.8 percent of its total benefit payments to out-of-state addresses.

Of the $48.9 million in Wyoming unemployment benefits paid in 1987, $8.7 million went out-of-state. The states that had a higher percentage of interstate benefits were Alaska (25.7 percent), Washington, D.C. (19.0 percent) and Delaware (18.5 percent).

CAMPBELL, WYOMING

Campbell County's 1987 population of 33,800 ranked fifth in the state.

PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME - In 1987, Campbell had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of $13,761. This PCPI ranked Third in the state, and was 108 percent of the state average ($12,706) and 89 percent of the national average ($15,484). In 1977, Campbell's PCPI of $10,710 ranked first in the state. The average annual growth rate of PCPI over the past 10 years was 2.5 percent. The average annual growth rate for the state was 5.0 percent and for the nation was 7.8 percent.

CARBON, WYOMING

Carbon County's 1987 population of 18,700 ranked 10th in the state.

PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME - In 1987, Carbon had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of $12,478. This PCPI ranked 11th in the state, and was 98 percent of the state average ($12,706) and 81 percent of the national average ($15,484). In 1977, Carbon's PCPI of $8,708 ranked fourth in the state. The average annual growth rate of PCPI over the past 10 years was 3.7 percent. The average annual growth rate for the state was 5.0 percent and for the nation was 7.8 percent.

Casper Included in Top 100

Casper, once considered the "Oil Capitol of the Rockies," has been named one of the USA's top 100 places to live by readers of *Money* magazine. For 1989, the magazine's readers ranked Casper 97th based on a list of regional attributes including availability of hospitals, house appreciation and low crime rate. In 1988 Casper ranked 237th.

The number one ranked city out of 300 listed, was Seattle.

Wyoming's Youth Enter Labor Force

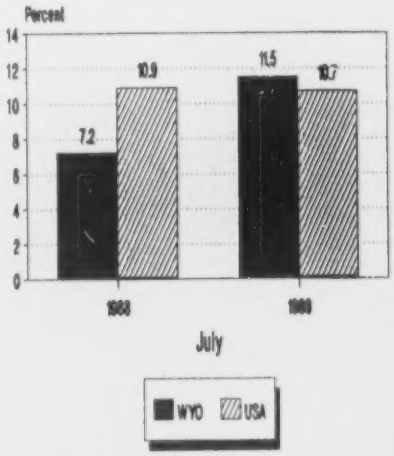
Between April and July each year, the number of 16-to-24 year olds in the

labor force grows rapidly, as large numbers of high school and college students search for temporary summer jobs and recent graduates look for permanent employment. During July, the youth labor force in Wyoming expanded to include 85.9 percent of the youth civilian population working or looking for work. Almost 47,000 youth were participating in the labor force in July, 1989, an increase of almost 2,500 over July, 1988.

While more youth were participating in the labor force, there were fewer finding jobs. The July, 1989 unemployment rate for 16-24 year olds was 11.5 percent, that compares to 7.2 percent last year, and 9.4 percent last month.

Nationally, a record proportion of youths working or looking for work--the labor force participation rate--reached a record high of 77.5 percent in July, exceeding the previous high attained last summer. However, due to the continuous decline of the youth population, the actual number of young workers in the labor force, 25.0 million, was 390,000 lower than in July of 1988. The national July, 1989 unemployment rate for youth was 10.7 percent.

Youth Unemployment Rates
Wyoming and U.S.
July, 1988 and July, 1989



Source: Current Population Survey

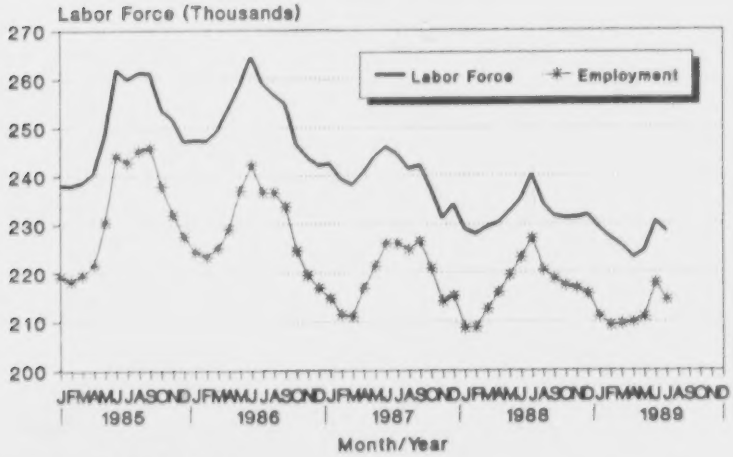
Consumer Price Index

(1982-1984 = 100)
All Urban

	July 1989	Annual % change
All Items	124.4	5.0
Food & Beverage	125.4	5.6
Housing	123.9	4.0
Entertainment	126.9	5.3
Apparel & Upkeep	115.0	2.0
Transportation	115.4	6.0
Medical	149.7	7.5

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Wyoming Labor Force and Employment
1985 - 1989



Scale does not begin at zero.
Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics, BLS and Research & Analysis.

WYOMING
ECONOMIC INDICATORS

TABLE 1

ITEM	JULY 1989	JUNE 1989	JULY 1988	% CHANGE IN TOTAL EMP. Percent Change From A Month Ago	A Year Ago
WYOMING EMPLOYMENT DATA					
Total Civilian Labor Force	228,383	230,427	240,081	- 0.9%	- 4.9%
Unemployment	14,037	12,662	13,037	10.9	7.7
Employed Labor Force	214,346	217,765	227,044	- 1.6	- 5.6
a. Covered Employment (Under WY UI Law) [3]	184,500	183,100	178,558	0.8	3.3
b. Agriculture [3]	13,839	14,305	13,926	- 3.3	- 0.6
Total Unemployment Rate (WY) Seasonally Adjusted*	6.1% 7.0%*	5.5% 6.1%*	5.4% 6.2%*	XXX	XXX
Total Unemployment Rate (U. S.) Seasonally Adjusted*	5.3% 5.2%*	5.5% 5.3%*	5.5% 5.4%*	XXX	XXX
Insured Unemployment Rate (WY) [4]	1.6%	1.7%	1.4%	XXX	XXX
HOURS AND EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 617.05	$ 614.76	$ 620.19	0.4	- 0.5
Average Weekly Hours	43.0	42.9	43.4	0.2	- 0.9
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 14.35	$ 14.33	$ 14.29	0.1	0.4
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE					
Claims Filed in Local Offices	13,082	13,328	12,852	- 1.8	1.8
a. Initial	1,685	2,044	1,933	-17.6	-12.8
Weeks Compensated	8,309	10,350	8,619	-19.7	- 3.6
Total Amount Benefits Paid	$1,295,951	$1,621,041	$1,310,039	-20.1	- 1.1
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$ 155.20	$ 155.36	$ 151.20	- 0.1	2.6
EMPLOYMENT SERVICE					
Total Applications Received During Month	N.A.	4,532	N.A.	XXX	XXX
Total Openings Received	N.A.	5,382	N.A.	XXX	XXX
Individual Placements	N.A.	2,835	N.A.	XXX	XXX
Placement Transactions	N.A.	4,809	N.A.	XXX	XXX
UNITED STATES DATA					
HOURS AND EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 566.35	$ 555.12	$ 532.98	2.0	6.3
Average Weekly Hours	43.2	42.8	42.0	0.9	2.9
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 13.11	$ 12.97	$ 12.69	1.1	3.3
PRICE INDEXES					
Consumer Price Index 1982-1984 = 100	124.4	124.1	118.5	0.2	5.0
Producer Prices, All Commodities 1982-1984 = 100	112.7	112.8	107.9	- 0.1	4.4
Food and Beverage, 1982-1984 = 100	125.4	124.9	118.8	0.4	5.6

[1] *Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers in non-agricultural establishments who worked or received pay during the week which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employeds, domestic servants and personnel of the armed forces are excluded.* [2] *Subject to revision.* [3] *Revised figures.*

WYOMING
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT
TABLE 2 (Prepared in Cooperation with U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE JULY 1989	LABOR FORCE JUNE 1989	LABOR FORCE JULY 1988	% CHANGE JUNE-JULY	% CHANGE JULY-JULY	UNEMPLOYMENT JULY 1989	UNEMPLOYMENT JUNE 1989	UNEMPLOYMENT JULY 1988	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE JULY 1989	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE JUNE 1989	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE JULY 1988
Statewide	228,383	230,427	240,081	-0.9	-4.9	14,037	12,662	13,037	6.1%	5.5%	5.4%
Statewide - Seasonally Adjusted									7.0	6.1	6.2
Albany	13,132	13,612	14,360	- 3.5	- 8.6	537	435	413	4.1	3.2	2.9
Big Horn	4,806	5,125	4,853	- 6.2	- 1.0	290	281	346	6.0	5.5	7.1
Campbell	13,881	14,405	14,745	- 3.6	- 5.9	1,020	1,099	868	7.3	7.6	5.9
Carbon	6,723	7,372	7,361	- 8.8	- 8.7	515	474	488	7.7	6.4	6.6
Converse	5,531	5,453	5,824	1.4	- 5.0	400	356	391	7.2	6.5	6.7
Crook	2,774	2,946	3,004	- 5.8	- 7.7	145	141	140	5.2	4.8	4.7
Fremont	15,108	15,914	15,377	- 5.1	- 1.7	1,203	1,069	1,146	8.0	6.7	7.5
Goshen	5,480	5,679	5,962	- 3.5	- 8.1	288	193	343	5.3	3.4	5.8
Hot Springs	2,726	2,796	2,943	- 2.5	- 7.4	119	102	124	4.4	3.6	4.2
Johnson	3,503	3,863	3,612	- 9.3	- 3.0	211	181	165	6.0	4.7	4.6
Laramie	33,298	33,296	36,366	0.0	- 8.4	1,859	1,727	1,741	5.6	5.2	4.8
Lincoln	5,299	5,663	5,835	- 6.4	- 9.2	464	453	404	8.8	8.0	6.9
Natrona	29,671	29,014	30,415	2.3	- 2.4	2,104	1,937	1,771	7.1	6.7	5.8
Niobrara	1,137	1,238	1,434	- 8.2	-20.7	30	29	73	2.6	2.3	5.1
Park	14,913	14,934	15,467	- 0.1	- 3.6	654	714	628	4.4	4.8	4.1
Platte	4,648	4,744	4,591	- 2.0	1.2	249	240	259	5.4	5.1	5.6
Sheridan	13,275	13,182	13,133	0.7	1.1	641	625	628	4.8	4.7	4.8
Sublette	2,730	2,625	2,996	4.0	- 8.9	177	122	188	6.5	4.6	6.3
Sweetwater	17,592	17,980	18,586	- 2.2	- 5.3	1,585	1,274	1,484	9.0	7.1	8.0
Teton	15,540	13,941	15,421	11.5	0.8	262	158	271	1.7	1.1	1.8
Uinta	9,261	9,401	9,874	- 1.5	- 6.2	750	698	693	8.1	7.4	7.0
Washakie	4,105	4,092	4,586	0.3	-10.5	273	177	292	6.7	4.3	6.4
Weston	3,252	3,153	3,334	3.1	- 2.5	262	177	180	8.1	5.6	5.4
United States									5.3	5.5	5.5
United States - Seasonally Adjusted									5.2	5.3	5.4

The ESC wishes to state that the data contained in this table are only estimates. The data for the current month is a preliminary estimate and will be revised next month, and revised yet again in about a year. The data contained in this table includes updated procedures mandated by the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. In addition, the 1988 data has been benchmarked to the Current Population Survey as conducted in Wyoming.

NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

TABLE 3 (Prepared in Cooperation with U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT IN THOUSANDS			% CHANGE IN TOTAL EMP.	
	JULY 1989 [2] TOTAL	JUNE 1989 [3] TOTAL	JULY 1988 TOTAL	JUNE 1989 to JULY 1989	JULY 1988 to JULY 1989
WYOMING NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT					
Total Non-Farm Wage and Salary Employment	189.6	196.7	185.9	- 3.6%	2.0%
Manufacturing	9.5	9.5	9.1	0.0	4.4
Durable Goods	4.3	4.3	4.2	0.0	2.4
Nondurable Goods	5.2	5.2	4.9	0.0	6.1
Petroleum and Coal Products	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	180.1	187.2	176.8	- 3.8	1.9
Mining	18.9	18.6	18.9	1.6	0.0
Contract Construction	11.4	11.2	11.7	1.8	- 2.6
Transportation and Public Utilities	14.1	14.0	13.5	0.7	4.4
Railroad Transportation	2.0	2.0	1.9	0.0	5.3
Transportation except Railroads	6.2	6.1	5.7	1.6	8.8
Communications, Electricity, Gas and Sanitary Services	5.9	5.9	5.9	0.0	0.0
Wholesale and Retail Trade	43.3	43.3	43.2	0.0	0.2
Wholesale Trade	7.0	7.0	7.0	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	36.3	36.3	36.2	0.0	0.3
Food Stores	5.3	5.3	5.1	0.0	3.9
Automotive Dealers and Service Stations	5.9	5.9	5.8	0.0	1.7
Eating and Drinking Places	13.9	13.9	14.0	0.0	- 0.7
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	7.3	7.3	7.2	0.0	1.4
Services	37.6	37.4	37.2	0.5	1.1
Personal Services	1.8	1.9	1.8	- 5.3	0.0
Medical and Other Health Services	6.9	6.9	6.9	0.0	0.0
Government	47.5	55.4	45.1	-14.3	5.3
Federal Government	9.1	9.1	8.4	0.0	8.3
State and Local Government	38.4	46.3	36.7	-17.1	4.6
State Government	14.4	14.4	13.4	0.0	7.5
Local Government	24.0	31.9	23.3	-24.8	3.0

See footnotes at end of table

NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

TABLE 3 (Continued) (Publication of Cheyenne data is not sanctioned by the Bureau of Labor Statistics)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT IN THOUSANDS			% CHANGE IN TOTAL EMP.	
	JULY 1989 [2] TOTAL	JUNE 1989 [3] TOTAL	JULY 1988 TOTAL	JUNE 1989 to JULY 1989	JULY 1988 to JULY 1989
CASPER (Natrona County)					
Total Non-Farm Wage and Salary Employment	27.8	27.8	26.8	0.0	3.7
Manufacturing	1.5	1.5	1.4	0.0	7.1
Nondurable Goods	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Petroleum and Coal Products	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.0	-25.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	26.3	26.3	25.4	0.0	3.5
Mining	2.7	2.7	2.7	0.0	0.0
Oil and Gas Extraction	2.5	2.5	2.5	0.0	0.0
Other Mining, Quarrying, etc.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Contract Construction	1.7	1.7	1.6	0.0	6.3
Transportation and Public Utilities	1.8	1.8	1.8	0.0	0.0
Wholesale and Retail Trade	7.8	7.8	7.7	0.0	1.3
Wholesale Trade	2.2	2.2	2.2	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	5.6	5.6	5.5	0.0	1.8
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0
Services	5.8	5.8	5.8	0.0	0.0
Government	5.1	5.1	4.4	0.0	15.9
Federal Government	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
State and Local Government	4.4	4.4	3.7	0.0	18.9
CHEYENNE (Laramie County)					
Total Non-Farm Wage and Salary Employment	30.2	30.6	30.2	- 1.3	0.0
Manufacturing	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	28.9	29.3	28.9	- 1.4	0.0
Contract Construction	1.3	1.3	1.7	0.0	-23.5
Transportation and Public Utilities	3.1	3.0	2.9	3.3	6.9
Wholesale and Retail Trade	7.1	7.0	7.0	1.4	1.4
Wholesale Trade	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	6.3	6.2	6.2	1.6	1.6
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	1.8	1.8	1.9	0.0	- 5.3
Services	5.6	5.6	5.7	0.0	- 1.8
Government	9.9	10.6	9.7	- 6.6	2.1
Federal Government	2.8	2.8	2.7	0.0	3.7
State and Local Government	7.1	7.8	7.0	- 9.0	1.4

[1] Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers in non-agricultural establishments who worked or received pay during the week which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employeds, domestic servants and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. [2] Subject to revision. [3] Revised figures.

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Wyoming

Labor Market Information

W Y O M I N G

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

The **Wyoming Labor Force Trends** is published by the Research and Analysis Section of the Wyoming Employment Security Commission.

- **Dick Sadler, Executive Director**
- **Bill Davis, Chief, Research and Analysis**
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ISSN 0512-4409